

Office and Professional Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC



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June 11, 2004

VIA FAX (212) 727-3466

Mr. Michael Goodwin
President
O.P.E.I.U.
265 West 14th Street, Suite 610
New York, New York
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Re: Your Questionnaire Regarding Canadian Autonomy

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 9, 2004 directed to all OPEIU Canadian Local Unions. I am responding to that letter in my capacity as the Canadian Director and the spokesperson for Canadian members on matters affecting Canadian membership. This role has been given to me pursuant to Article XIV, Section 2 of the Constitution.

In your letter to me dated May 14, 2004 you set out your interpretation of Article XIV, Section 1 as requiring amongst other things:

- That the issue of establishing an autonomous national union must be decided by a Canadian Convention.
- Only if a Canadian Convention makes a request will a procedure be established by the International which procedure will require a secret ballot vote of all OPEIU members in Canada.

Since May 14, 2004 you have not modified your purported interpretation of the Constitution and have advanced that interpretation in the Statement of Claim filed in the British Columbia Supreme Court on behalf of the International.

As you are well aware from those Court proceedings the Canadian Locals dispute your ability to rewrite the Constitution and have asserted that your goal was to delay or nullify the rights given under Article XIV, Section 1 so as to permit an amendment of that Article at the upcoming Convention.

At no point have you provided the Canadian Locals with any real guidance on the procedures which should be used in determining the wishes of their members. You have simply abdicated that responsibility in order to pursue your own self interest in delaying this process.

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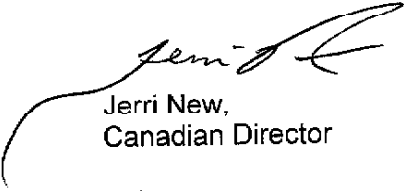


Had you provided any genuine or timely suggestions those would have been considered by the Canadian Locals. As matters now stand your latest "questions" appear to be an after the fact attempt to again rewrite the rules which would govern the process initiated by the Canadian Local Unions.

What seems to have been forgotten is the fact that you have already written the "rules". Those are the ones set out in your letter of May 14, 2004 and your current lawsuit. Whether those "rules" are valid is a question which will ultimately be decided by the British Columbia Supreme Court. I am confident that they will not be upheld given the comments of Mr. Justice Pitfield at the injunction hearing.

In these circumstances I am of the view that the questions posed by you have no relevance to the rules which you previously set and therefore require no response.

Yours truly,



Jerri New,
Canadian Director

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